


MODERN FRENCH
TAPESTRIES

BIGNOU GALLERY
NEW YORK

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MODERN FRENCH TAPESTRIES

by

BRAQUE, RAOUL DUFY, LEGER, LURÇAT
HENRI-MATISSE, PICASSO, ROUAULT

From the collection of Madame Paul Cuttoli

Foreword by Monsieur EDOUARD HERRIOT

Former Premier of France

APRIL 1936

BIGNOU GALLERY

Rolls-Royce Building

32 EAST 57TH STREET

NEW YORK

5007
C9
N535
1936

TRANSLATION OF THE "FOREWORD"

My friend Madame Cuttoli honors me with an invitation to write a preface to the catalogue of the exhibition of modern tapestries which she intends holding in the United States. I am particularly pleased to be associated with this aesthetic mission of an entirely new formula which represents another effort to bring us into closer contact with our friends of America. The Americans know the feeling which I have for their country. They know that at a certain moment of my public life, I sacrificed the Government over which I presided because of my determination to remain faithful to the obligations assumed towards them.

On the other hand, this exhibition represents an artistic initiative worthy of interest and encouragement. It has been undertaken and realized in collaboration with several of our foremost painters: G. Braque, R. Dufy, F. Léger, J. Lurçat, H. Matisse, P. Picasso and G. Rouault,—all men of widely different talents. There is a world of difference between the whimsical fantasy of Dufy, the "color researches" of Matisse, the free inspiration of Picasso, the often satirical gravity of Rouault. Braque, with his typical French sense of balance holds in check his challenging subjects. Léger, perhaps tempered by his recent journey to Greece, brings an aggressive vigor to the problem of mural decoration. Lurçat has initiated a series of experiments which find their expression in this exhibition; from day to day his strong individuality becomes more manifest.

These cartoons have been executed in low-warp in Beauvais point. It may seem rather amazing that an "old classic" such as the one who signs these lines and who* several times has been responsible for the safe keeping of the Collections of the French Republic, should lend his name to these audacious experiments. It is however well from time to time that Tradition should be given a good jolt and in this way its spirit rejuvenated and renewed. For, even in art, it is the "revolutionists" of yesterday who are the "classics" of to-morrow.

EDOUARD HERRIOT

**In the role of Minister of Fine Arts.*

FOREWORD

by

Edouard HERRIOT,

Former Premier of France

Mon amie Madame Cottoli me fait l'honneur de m'inviter à faire préceder d'une préface le Catalogue de l'Exposition de tapisseries modernes qu'elle desire présenter aux Etats Unis. Je m'en réjouis tout d'abord parce que cette ambassade artistique, à un style nouveau, représente un nouvel effort de rapprochement avec nos amis d'Amérique. Ils connaissent mes sentiments pour eux; ils savent qu'à certaines heures de ma vie publique j'ai sacrifié le gouvernement que je présidais à ma volonté de rester fidèle aux engagements contractés avec eux.

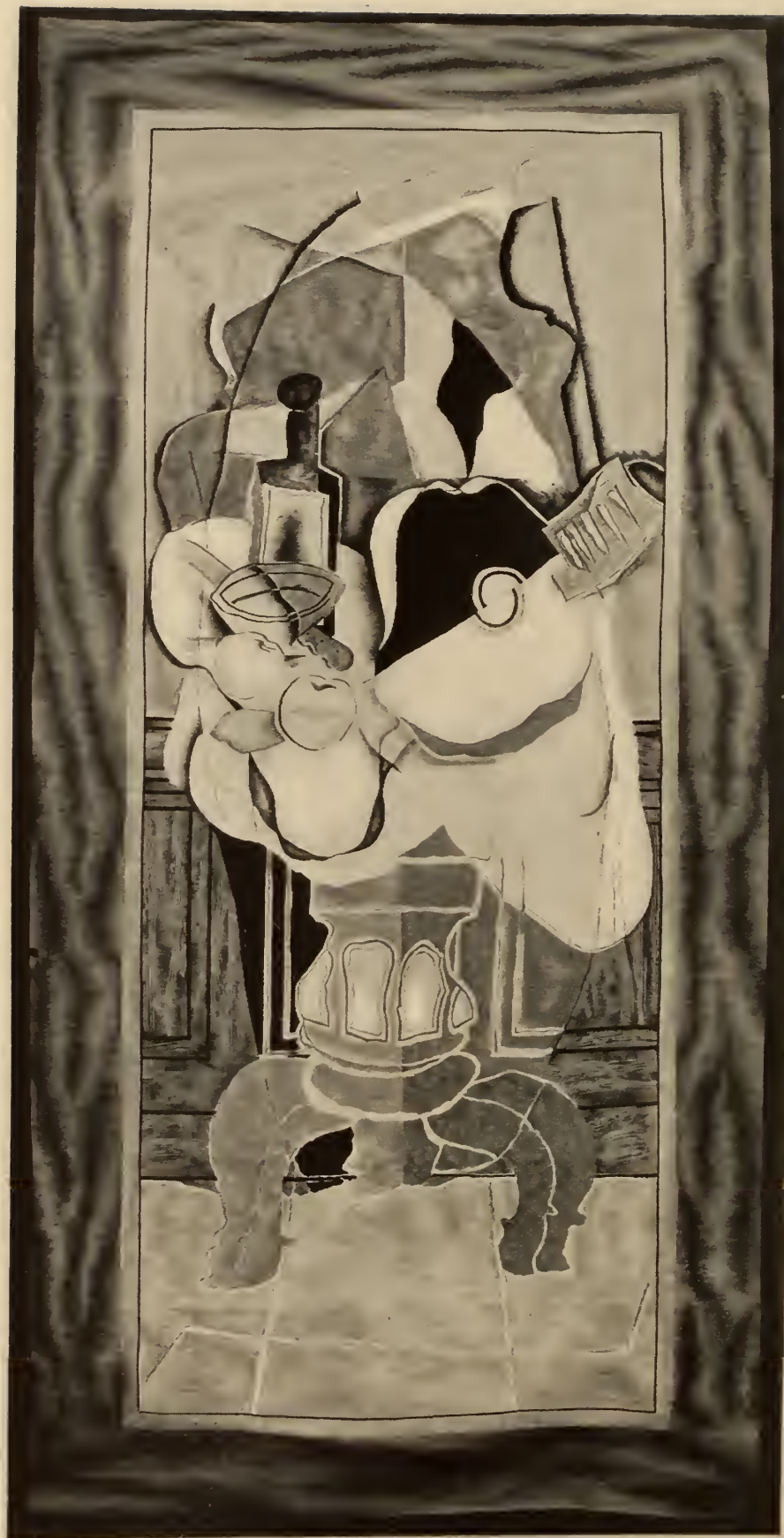
Mais, d'autre part, cet effort représente une tentative artistique digne d'intérêt et d'encouragement.

2)ement il a été entrepris et poursuivi avec la collaboration de plusieurs de nos peintres les plus réputés : ~~George~~ G. Braque, R. Dufy, F. Léger, J. Lurçat, H. Matine, P. Picano et G. Rouault. Ce sont des talents fort différents. Il y a loin de la fantaisie ingénue de Dufy aux recherches colorées de Matine, à la libre inspiration de Picano, à la gravité souvent satirique de Rouault. Braque atténue ce qu'il y a parfois de provoquant dans ^{ses} sujets par son sens si français de l'équilibre et de la mesure. Léger, adouci peut être par son vif croyance en Dieu, attaque avec une ardeur offensive la muraille qu'il veut décore. Lurçat est l'initiateur des tentatives qui se traduisent dans l'exposition actuelle ; de jour en jour, sa puissante personnalité se dégage.

Ces cartons ont été traités en bande libre au

point de Beauvois. Il pourra paraître ironique
qu'un vieux classique, comme celui qui signe
ces lignes et qui fut plusieurs fois député à la
garde des collections de l'Etat français, recourant de
son nom des essais hardis. Mais il est bon de
tenir à autre de donner un coup de fouet sous
la tradition, pour la réjouir elle-même et la
renouveler. Ce sont les révolutionnaires d'hier
qui sont, même en art, les classiques de demain.

Edouard Herriot



GEORGES BRAQUE — “*Nature Morte à la Guitare*”

B R A Q U E

GEORGES

(Contemporary artist)

1. NATURE MORTE A LA PIPE

Silk and Wool: 83½ x 43¾ inches

Signed lower right: G. Braque

Woven in 1935-36

Point de Beauvais

81 stitches to the square centimetre

2. NATURE MORTE A LA GUITARE

Silk and Wool: 83½ x 43¾ inches

Signed lower right: G. Braque

Woven in 1935

Point de Beauvais

81 stitches to the square centimetre

Illustrated



RAOUL DUFY — "Panorama de Paris"

D U F Y

RAOUL

(Contemporary artist)

3. HOMMAGE A MOZART

Silk and Wool: 54 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 45 $\frac{3}{8}$ inches

Signed lower centre: Raoul Dufy

Dated: 1934

Woven in 1934

Point d'Aubusson

49 stitches to the square centimetre

4. PANORAMA DE PARIS

Silk and Wool: 77 $\frac{1}{4}$ x 62 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches

Signed lower centre: Raoul Dufy

Dated: Paris, 1934

Woven in 1935

Point de Beauvais

81 stitches to the square centimetre

Illustrated



FERNAND LEGER — "Trois Personnages"

LEGER

FERNAND

(Contemporary artist)

5. COMPOSITION

Silk and Wool: 63 $\frac{1}{8}$ x 51 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches

Signed lower left: F. Léger

Dated: 1910

Woven in 1934

Point d'Aubusson

49 stitches to the square centimetre

6. TROIS PERSONNAGES

Silk and Wool: 90 $\frac{5}{8}$ x 108 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches

Signed lower left: F. Léger

Dated: 1932

Woven in 1935

Point d'Aubusson

49 stitches to the square centimetre

Illustrated



JEAN LURCAT — "L'Orage"

LURCAT

JEAN

(Contemporary artist)

7. L'ORAGE

Silk and Wool: 91³/₈ x 66¹/₄ inches

Signed lower right: Lurçat

Dated: 1931

Woven in 1935

Point d'Aubusson

49 stitches to the square centimetre

Illustrated



HENRI-MATISSE — *“Papeete”*

H E N R I - M A T I S S E

(Contemporary artist)

8. P A P E E T E

Silk and Wool: 89 x 68 inches

Signed lower right: Henri-Matisse

Dated: 1935

Woven in 1935-36

Point de Beauvais

81 stitches to the square centimetre

Illustrated with a photograph of the original cartoon



PABLO PICASSO — "*Inspiration*"

P I C A S S O

P A B L O

(Contemporary artist)

9. INSPIRATION

Silk and Wool: 76½ x 67 inches

Signed lower left: Picasso

Dated: 1934

Woven in 1935-36

Point de Beauvais

81 stitches to the square centimetre

Illustrated in "Cahiers d'Art", Paris, February 1936

Illustrated



GEORGES ROUAULT — *"Sorrow"*

ROUAULT

GEORGES

(Contemporary artist)

10. LE REPOS DES CLOWNS

Silk and Wool: 90 $\frac{5}{8}$ x 51 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches

Signed lower right with monogram

Dated: 1930

Woven in 1934-35

Point de Beauvais

81 stitches to the square centimetre

11. LA DANSEUSE

Silk and Wool: 90 $\frac{5}{8}$ x 51 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches

Signed lower right with monogram

Dated: 1931

Woven in 1934-35

Point de Beauvais

81 stitches to the square centimetre

12. SORROW

Silk and Wool: 78 $\frac{7}{8}$ x 48 $\frac{1}{8}$ inches

Signed lower right with monogram

Dated: 1932

Woven in 1935

Point de Beauvais

81 stitches to the square centimetre

Illustrated

ROUAULT

GEORGES

(Contemporary artist)

13. JEUNE FILLE A LA ROSE

Silk and Wool: 39 $\frac{3}{8}$ x 25 $\frac{5}{8}$ inches

Signed lower right with monogram

Dated: 1933

Woven in 1936

Point de Beauvais

81 stitches to the square centimetre

14. ANTINEA

Silk and Wool: 43 $\frac{3}{8}$ x 30 inches

Woven in 1936

Point de Beauvais

81 stitches to the square centimetre

15. SATAN

Silk and Wool: 42 $\frac{5}{8}$ x 29 $\frac{1}{8}$ inches

Woven in 1935

Point de Beauvais

81 stitches to the square centimetre

16. LA PARADE

Silk and Wool: 28 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 39 $\frac{3}{8}$ inches

Signed lower left: Georges Rouault

Dated: 1934

Woven in 1935

Point de Beauvais

81 stitches to the square centimetre

Rogers-Kellogg-Stillson, New York

NK Rebay
3007
xN5 NY(C) Bignou Gallery.
B5 MODERN FRENCH TAPESTRIES.
1936 April 1936.

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